

## 1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of  
3 Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Marvin Smith  
4 Sr. of Waukegan on December 1, 2002 at 72 years of age; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was born in Waukegan on May 25, 1930;  
6 he was a graduate of Waukegan Township High School and also  
7 attended Chicago Technical College where he studied  
8 architectural drafting; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1959, he was part of a group that filed a  
10 lawsuit to desegregate the Waukegan Grade School District and  
11 six years later, the group won in court and the schools  
12 became integrated; for his contribution, the Whittier School  
13 Mothers Club cited Smith for work on behalf of the community;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, He retired from the U.S. Steel wire mill after  
16 nearly 30 years of service; in 1962, he joined the Illinois  
17 Secretary of State's office; he retired in 2000 from the  
18 Waukegan facility where he conducted road tests; and

19 WHEREAS, In the late 1960s, he was a member of the city's  
20 Human Relations Commission; was a vice president of the  
21 NAACP; the United Steelworkers Union; a member of Shiloh  
22 Baptist Church in Waukegan, where he volunteered his time;  
23 and a long-time member of the Waukegan local of the American  
24 Federation of Musicians; and

25 WHEREAS, As a jazz drummer, he played in a band called  
26 the Jazz Brothers, which regularly played in Milwaukee and  
27 Chicago; his son, Marvin "Smitty" Smith is the drummer of the  
28 Tonight Show Band; and

29 WHEREAS, His passing will be deeply felt by all who knew  
30 and loved him, especially his wife, Edith; his three sons,  
31 Michael, Marvin, and Mitchell; his two daughters, Lucille

1 Harper and Helen Smith-Gatlin; his two step-daughters, Gloria  
2 Taylor and Dorothy Harris; and his eleven grandchildren; and

3 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents, Otis  
4 and Lucille Smith; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we note with sorrow  
7 and regret the death of Marvin Smith Sr. and extend our  
8 sincere condolences to his family and friends; and be it  
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11 delivered to the family of Marvin Smith Sr.